

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please find below a listing of all of the pending claims. The statuses of the claims are set forth in parentheses.

1. (Currently amended) A method for improving performance of liquid-type fuel cells comprising:

providing a liquid-type fuel cell having a fuel and a platinum-based catalyst, wherein the fuel comprises methanol, and

incorporating into the fuel a fuel additive to reduce CO poisoning to the platinum-based catalyst, ~~and~~

~~pre-packing the fuel additive for field use.~~

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the fuel additive comprises hemoglobin.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the amount of hemoglobin is in the range of 0.0001-1% by weight.

4. (Currently amended) A method for improving performance of liquid-type fuel cells comprising:

providing a liquid-type fuel cell having an electrode and ~~a fuel,~~ methanol, wherein the methanol is the liquid-type fuel, said fuel cell also having a liquid-catalyst interface, and

incorporating into the [[fuel]] methanol a fuel additive to increase wettability of the electrode and to decrease interfacial tension of the liquid-catalyst interface.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the fuel additive comprises surfactant.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the amount of surfactant is in the range of 0.0001-1% by weight.

7. (Currently amended) A method for improving performance of liquid-type fuel cells comprising:

providing a liquid-type fuel cell having ~~a fuel,~~ methanol, wherein the methanol is the liquid-type fuel, and

incorporating into the [[fuel]]methanol a fuel additive to reduce dissolved oxygen in the [[fuel]]methanol.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the fuel additive comprises an oxygen scavenger.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the amount of oxygen scavenger is in the range of 0.0001-1% by weight.

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Atty Docket No.: 10010865-1
App. Ser. No.: 09/964,647

10. (Currently amended) A method for improving performance of liquid-type fuel cells comprising:

providing a liquid-type fuel cell having a ~~fuel~~ methanol, a catalyst, and electrolyte, wherein the methanol is the liquid-type fuel, and

incorporating into the [[fuel]]methanol a fuel additive to remove metal ions that are detrimental to the catalyst or electrolyte.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the fuel additive comprises a chelating agent.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the amount of chelating agent is in the range of 0.0001-1% by weight.

13-15. (Canceled).

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the fuel additive is pre-packed for field use.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the surfactant comprises at least one of an anionic, a cationic, an amphoteric, and a nonionic surfactant.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the fuel additive is pre-packed for field use.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the oxygen scavenger comprises at least one of sodium sulfite, sodium bisulfite, ascorbate, hydrazine, hydroquinone, benzmay, and sulfhydryl.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the fuel additive is pre-packed for field use.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the chelating agent comprises at least one of ethylenediaminetetracetic acid and trans-1,2-diaminocyclohexane-N,N,N',N'-tetraacetic acid.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the hemoglobin is in powder form.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
pre-packing the fuel additive for field use.